

**Spokane Regional Transportation Council  
2002 Unified Planning Work Program  
Annual Report**

Prepared by:

Spokane Regional Transportation Council  
221 West First Avenue, Suite 310  
Spokane, WA 99201-3613  
July 29, 2002

**Introduction:**

As the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Spokane County, as well as the Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) for Spokane and Whitman Counties, Spokane Regional Transportation Council (SRTC) is responsible for ensuring there is a continuing, coordinated and comprehensive transportation planning program in the region. To that end, SRTC prepares a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) that provides the overall framework for activities that will be undertaken during the fiscal year from July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>. This Annual Report describes the activities and tasks that occurred during the 2002 fiscal year.

**Major Accomplishments:**

During the 2002 fiscal year, SRTC was involved in a wide variety of transportation planning activities ranging from land use development monitoring to tracking the geographic distribution of population and employment throughout the region. Major tasks and accomplishments included:

- Developed the 2002-2004 Transportation Improvement Program
- Completion of Regional Transportation Air Quality conformity determinations
- Completion of the Regional Traffic Management Center in association with WSDOT, City of Spokane, Spokane County and Spokane Transit Authority
- Migrating the regional travel demand modeling software from TModel2 to EMME/2 software in support of mode choice modeling
- Continued coordination of the Bridging the Valley Project with planning partners
- Developed and received approval for a Job Access and Reverse Commute Plan, as well as completed regional funding application to WSDOT
- Continued participation in the Spokane Light Rail project

In all, fiscal year 2002 had a very busy schedule for the staff and advisory committees to complete the assigned efforts on schedule and within the budget. In the following sections, specific accomplishments will be identified by work task as outlined in the 2002 UPWP.

**Task 43406 – Metropolitan Transportation Plan**

During the fiscal year, SRTC staff in association with the advisory committees and the SRTC Board developed and approved the MTP update and amendment process. This process will be used to assess proposed amendments to the MTP to ensure they are reviewed and analyzed in a consistent and comprehensive manner with regard to regional travel demand modeling and air quality conformity requirements.

SRTC staff also participated on a variety of committees associated with development of the Washington Transportation Plan (WTP). This addressed areas such as travel performance, assessment criteria, and needs identification. The Washington State Transportation Commission approved the WTP during the 2002 fiscal year.

The SRTC also evaluated the potential of developing additional bridge crossings of the Spokane River between Havana and Harvard Roads in the Spokane Valley. This report was presented to the various advisory committees, recommending additional capacity improvements on various existing crossings; however, did not recommend the development of additional crossings in the near future. As implementation of growth management continues in Spokane County, the need to re-assess the need for additional bridge crossings will once again be reviewed.

#### **Task 43407 – Major Investment Analysis**

The most significant major investment effort by SRTC during the past fiscal year has been the continued development of “Bridging the Valley.” This 42-mile project evaluates the movement of Union Pacific (UP) mainline operations into the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway (BNSF) corridor from Spokane, Washington to Athol, Idaho. During 2002 BNSF and UP completed a review of the proposed physical and operational analysis of the corridor and determined it was feasible to move forward with the project from planning into preliminary engineering. Significant outreach has taken place in the community to provide an opportunity to understand the effects the project would have over the long term. The SRTC Board approved \$4.23 million in Federal-aid funding to support the preliminary engineering effort and the Idaho Transportation Department is currently seeking funding to support similar efforts on the Idaho side of the project as well.

#### **Task 43409 – Congestion Management System**

The SRTC continues to gather travel time information using the automated vehicle identification program developed for the Spokane Metropolitan Area. This information has been used to track travel time in key Congestion Management System (CMS) corridors, calibrate the regional travel demand model, and evaluate the effect of proposed changes to the Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

SRTC also moved forward with its transportation partners in inaugurating the Regional Traffic Management Center (SRTMC). This center is an integral part of the overall CMS program by providing early incident detection on the regional transportation system. It provides more timely and efficient responses to incidences and reduces delay on an ongoing basis.

### **Task 43411 – Program Management and Administration**

SRTC prepared monthly billings, meeting notices, progress reports, and personnel related activities typical to the start of a new calendar and fiscal year. The Transportation Manager and staff attended several seminars, training sessions, and workshops to update and remain proficient in transportation planning requirement of the profession. SRTC held a workshop on EMME/2 training in Spokane for all local agencies and jurisdictions migrating from TModel/2 to EMME/2 in the 2002 fiscal year.

### **Task 43412 – Inter-local Coordination**

SRTC provides transportation planning and coordination for and with local agencies in Spokane and Whitman Counties. This includes staff support to meetings and workshops held by local jurisdictions on transportation and land use related matters. During the fiscal year SRTC staff has worked closely with development of the Job Access/Reverse Commute Plan through a wide variety of groups and individuals, as well as providing assistance to the Idaho Transportation Department in their development of an MPO in Kootenai County, Idaho. SRTC continues to provide staff support to the Spokane Light Rail project on an on-going basis, as well as the model users group, and the citizens' advisory committee.

The Public Education and Information Coordinator participates in numerous groups and committees related to commute trip reduction and public information campaigns to increase the awareness of alternative modes of transportation choices available in the community. In addition, SRTC prepares press releases and maintains an Internet web site. That web site can be found at [www.srtc.org](http://www.srtc.org). During 2002, SRTC updated its Public Involvement Plan and attended several workshops on Title VI and Environmental Justice implementation. SRTC continues to provide staff support to the SRTC Board, Transportation Technical Committee, and Citizens' Advisory Committee on Transportation on a monthly basis.

### **Task 43413 – Annual Documentation**

Each year, SRTC must develop reports and documents as part of the regional transportation planning program. This includes vehicle miles of travel reporting, development of the Transportation Improvement Program, Transportation Air Quality Conformity reviews, Unified Planning Work Program, Annual Reports, and Title VI report. SRTC completed those tasks and has submitted them to the appropriate agencies for review and approval.

### **Task 43414 – Regional Transportation Modeling**

Each year SRTC continues to update and maintain the regional travel demand model using the most current and up-to-date information available. This year the most significant effort has been the migration of the travel demand model from TModel/2 to EMME/2. This has been done through a significant effort by SRTC staff and a

consulting firm. During this major effort, SRTC has also incorporated, to the extent possible, new information released by the Bureau of the Census. It is expected the SRTC's new travel demand model will be calibrated and operational by August of 2002. The model will then be incorporated to the overall regional transportation planning program during 2003.

#### **Task 43415 – Transportation and Geographic Services**

Essential to most transportation planning efforts is the ability to manage the enormous amounts of data that must be collected and analyzed for the entire metropolitan area. The geographic information system used by SRTC provides the ability to manage that data and provide both tabular and graphical analysis of that data for use in transportation planning projects. The most significant efforts this past year have included incorporating the 2000 Census Data for use in the travel demand model update and providing support to both the Job Access/Reverse Commute Plan and Bridging the Valley. Without this vital task, the ability to complete these major efforts would be difficult and much less timely.

#### **Task 43418 – Baseline Data Collection Program**

SRTC continues to collect baseline data in support of the regional transportation planning program. This includes transit ridership data, traffic count information, and travel time information through the use of floating car techniques and the AVI program. SRTC also incorporates building permit and platting information into the overall program to ensure updated information is available to the transportation planning process.

#### **Task 43419 – Transportation Air Quality Planning**

Among the most significant efforts at SRTC, is the management of the transportation related air quality analysis used in the Spokane non-attainment area. Air Quality Conformity analysis of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Regional Transportation Improvement Program, or project level conformity require significant amounts of time and attention to assure Spokane achieves and maintains the National Ambient Air Quality standards.

In addition, SRTC maintains an active liaison status with Spokane County Pollution Control Authority and the Washington State Department of Ecology for development of the State Implementation Plan (SIP) and the implementation of Transportation Control Measures that have been developed to meet the area's attainment needs. The SIP for Spokane was approved and submitted to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency prior to October 13, 2001 as required by federal regulation.

## **Task 43420 – HCT Planning**

During 2002, SRTC maintained an active role in the development of the Spokane Light Rail project, as it moves closer into preliminary engineering. SRTC has been working closely with Spokane Transit Authority and their team of consultants to provide Census, air quality, and mode choice analysis as an integral part of the conceptual design effort.

SRTC elected to delay starting the next phase of the HCT planning effort to the Spokane International Airport until the first phase receives approval to enter preliminary engineering. When phase 1 enters preliminary engineering, SRTC will begin the effort to move the planning forward to the West Plains area.

### **Summary:**

Fiscal year 2002 was a significant year on a wide variety of transportation planning fronts. Whether it was opening the Regional Traffic Management Center, light rail, freight rail, bridge crossing analysis, or even going to a new regional travel demand model, the efforts to accomplish these tasks were incredible. The public support through their comments and involvement, as well as the support of local jurisdictions and agencies shows that virtually everyone has an interest in transportation planning.

The increased efforts across the State line into Idaho have also been exciting. Kootenai County becoming a metropolitan area creates a whole new dynamic for the Inland Northwest and exciting opportunities exist to make our regional transportation system more seamless to the traveling public.

**SPOKANE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL  
ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT  
FINANCIAL SUMMARY  
FISCAL YEAR 2002  
(July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2002)**

WASHINGTON STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING OFFICE

PROGRAM REVIEW FORM

TOTAL FUNDS				QUARTER: ANNUAL	FISCAL YEAR: 2002
DATE COMPLETED: July 24, 2002		PREPARED BY: S. R. Amesen			
RECEIVED:		REVIEW DATE:	REVIEWED BY:		
WORK TASK	FISCAL BUDGET	ANNUAL EXPENSES	PERCENT TOTAL	KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS THIS PERIOD	
43406	15,628.00	18,450.52	118.1%	See Attached Narrative	
43407	292,000.00	75,423.51	25.8%	See Attached Narrative	
43409	297,550.00	288,730.07	97.0%	See Attached Narrative	
43411	35,500.00	39,541.01	111.4%	See Attached Narrative	
43412	97,000.00	104,800.24	108.0%	See Attached Narrative	
43413	11,000.00	7,591.22	69.0%	See Attached Narrative	
43414	154,300.00	158,191.83	102.5%	See Attached Narrative	
43415	149,338.00	157,392.57	105.4%	See Attached Narrative	
43418	4,180.00	5,999.99	143.5%	See Attached Narrative	
43419	91,516.00	102,453.74	112.0%	See Attached Narrative	
43420	375,000.00	0.00	0.0%	See Attached Narrative	
TOTAL	1,523,012.00	958,574.70	62.9%		

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WASHINGTON STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING OFFICE

PROGRAM REVIEW FORM

CONSOLIDATED FUNDS: AGREEMENT: GCA 2853; WORK ORDER: PN 2604 01 0590      QUARTER: ANNUAL    FISCAL YEAR: 2002

DATE COMPLETED: July 24, 2002      PREPARED BY: S. R. Amesen

RECEIVED:		REVIEW DATE:	REVIEWED BY:	
WORK TASK	FISCAL BUDGET	ANNUAL EXPENSES	PERCENT TOTAL	KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS THIS PERIOD
43406	11,000.00	11,166.14	101.5%	
43407	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43409	4,000.00	3,775.96	0.0%	
43411	23,500.00	24,024.68	102.2%	
43412	67,000.00	67,476.93	100.7%	
43413	7,000.00	4,867.47	69.5%	
43414	118,000.00	118,763.13	100.6%	
43415	106,338.00	106,165.68	99.8%	
43418	2,000.00	2,039.15	102.0%	
43419	72,016.00	72,574.86	100.8%	
43420	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
TOTAL	410,854.00	410,854.00	100.0%	



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WASHINGTON STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING OFFICE

PROGRAM REVIEW FORM

RTP FUNDS AGREEMENT: GCA 2853 WORK ORDER: PN 2614 01 0590 QUARTER: ANNUAL FISCAL YEAR: 2002

DATE COMPLETED: July 24, 2002 PREPARED BY: S. R. Amesen

RECEIVED:		REVIEW DATE:	REVIEWED BY:	
WORK TASK	FISCAL BUDGET	ANNUAL EXPENSES	PERCENT TOTAL	KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS THIS PERIOD
43406	2,353.00	2,442.10	103.8%	
43407	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43409	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43411	7,500.00	7,643.50	101.9%	
43412	18,000.00	18,056.50	100.3%	
43413	2,500.00	1,792.30	71.7%	
43414	15,000.00	15,229.00	101.5%	
43415	24,000.00	23,917.88	99.7%	
43418	1,180.00	1,284.22	108.8%	
43419	6,500.00	6,667.50	102.6%	
43420	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
TOTAL	77,033.00	77,033.00	100.0%	

**SPOKANE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL  
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FISCAL YEAR 2002  
(July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2002)**

WASHINGTON STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING OFFICE

PROGRAM REVIEW FORM

S VALLEY-LIGHT RAIL - FTA Funds

QUARTER: ANNUAL FISCAL YEAR: 2002

DATE COMPLETED: July 24, 2002

PREPARED BY: S. R. Arnesen

RECEIVED:

REVIEW DATE:

REVIEWED BY:

WORK TASK	FISCAL BUDGET	ANNUAL EXPENSES	PERCENT TOTAL	KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS THIS PERIOD
43406	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43407	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43409	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43411	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43412	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43413	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43414	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43415	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43418	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43419	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43420	300,000.00	0.00	0.0%	
TOTAL	300,000.00	0.00	0.0%	

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WASHINGTON STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING OFFICE

PROGRAM REVIEW FORM

BRIDGING THE VALLEY and MONROE/LINCOLN CORRIDOR MIA'S QUARTER: ANNUAL FISCAL YEAR: 2002

DATE COMPLETED: July 24, 2002 PREPARED BY: S. R. Arnesen

RECEIVED: REVIEWED BY:

WORK TASK	FISCAL BUDGET	ANNUAL EXPENSES	PERCENT TOTAL	KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS THIS PERIOD
43406	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43407	250,000.00	52,039.86	20.8%	
43409	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43411	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43412	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43413	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43414	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43415	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43418	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43419	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43420	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
TOTAL	250,000.00	52,039.86	20.8%	

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WASHINGTON STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
TRANSIT, RESEARCH AND INTERMODAL PLANNING

PROGRAM REVIEW FORM

TRANSPORTATION OPERATIONS CENTER (LA 3876)

QUARTER: ANNUAL FISCAL YEAR: 2002

DATE COMPLETED: July 24, 2002

PREPARED BY: S. R. Arnesen

RECEIVED:

REVIEWED BY:

WORK TASK	FISCAL BUDGET	ANNUAL EXPENSES	PERCENT TOTAL	KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS THIS PERIOD
43406	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43407	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43409	250,000.00	245,879.46	98.4%	
43411	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43412	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43413	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43414	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43415	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43418	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43419	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
43420	0.00	0.00	0.0%	
TOTAL	250,000.00	245,879.46	98.4%	

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WASHINGTON STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING OFFICE

PROGRAM REVIEW FORM

LOCAL FUNDS			QUARTER: ANNUAL		FISCAL YEAR: 2002	
DATE COMPLETED: July 24, 2002			PREPARED BY: S. R. Arnesen			
RECEIVED:		REVIEW DATE:		REVIEWED BY:		
WORK TASK	FISCAL BUDGET	ANNUAL EXPENSES	PERCENT TOTAL	KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS THIS PERIOD		
43406	2,275.00	4,842.28	212.8%			
43407	42,000.00	23,383.65	55.7%			
43409	43,550.00	39,074.65	89.7%			
43411	4,500.00	7,872.83	175.0%			
43412	12,000.00	19,266.81	160.6%			
43413	1,500.00	931.45	62.1%			
43414	21,300.00	24,199.70	113.6%			
43415	19,000.00	27,309.01	143.7%			
43418	1,000.00	2,676.62	267.7%			
43419	13,000.00	23,211.38	178.5%			
43420	75,000.00	0.00	0.0%			
TOTAL	235,125.00	172,768.38	73.5%			

# SRTC

*Spokane Regional Transportation Council*

221 W. First Avenue, Suite 310, Spokane, WA 99201 (509) 343-6370

[Home](#)

## News and Happenings:

[About SRTC](#) SRTC's annual Planning Assumptions Interactive Tour was July 10, 2002. [See presentation.](#)

[Calendar](#) Read the new [Job Access Reverse Commute Plan](#) here!

[Committees](#) Looking for career opportunities? Check out SRTC's newest [job listing](#)!

[Web Directory](#) [Summer Survey](#): Answer three questions for the Citizens' Advisory Committee on Transportation.

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